

DISTRIBUTION RECORDS FOR
TRICHOBIUS SPHAERONOTUS JOBLING, WITH A
FIRST REPORT FOR ARIZONA

(Diptera: Streblidae)

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Trichobius sphaeronotus Jobling (1939) was described from seven specimens taken by Mr. H. Hoogstraal from the long-nosed bat, *Leptonycteris nivalis* (Saussure), (Phyllostomidae), at Cerro Potosi, 9000 ft. elevation, Nuevo Leon, Mexico.

In the late summer of 1940, Kohls and Jellison (1948) obtained several specimens of *T. sphaeronotus* collecting in the following caves in Texas: Ney Cave, Medina County, Sept. 14, 1940, from the Brazilian free-tailed bat, *Tadarida mexicana* (Saussure) [now *T. brasiliensis* (St. Hilaire)], (Molossidae); Frio Cave, Uvalde County, Sept. 16, 1940, from *T. mexicana*. Kohls also collected one female specimen near Shumba, Texas, in an abandoned railroad tunnel, 1940, no host noted.

Ryckman (1956) collected specimens of *T. sphaeronotus* in the following two locations: Ney Cave, ten miles southwest of Bandera, Medina County, Texas, July 13, 1954, from the Brazilian free-tailed bat; Boca del Rio, Veracruz, Mexico, July 22, 1954, from the long-nosed bat.

Mr. G. Bradshaw (Dept. of Zoology, University of Arizona) presented me with four males and one female of *T. sphaeronotus* from the Brazilian free-tailed bat, collected at Carbo Cave, 14.9 road miles southwest of Carbo, Sonora, Mexico.

On July 28, 1959, along with Mr. William Musgrove (Dept. of Zoology, University of Arizona), I collected 40 (19 males: 21 females) specimens of *T. sphaeronotus* from two juvenile long-nosed bats at Colossal Cave, 20 east, seven south, airline miles of Tucson, south end of the Rincon Mountains, Pima County, Arizona. One bat harbored 25 of the ectoparasites, and the other had 16. I do not believe that this is the normal incident of parasitism of this host by these dipterous ectoparasites. The mature colony had left several days before, presumably returning to Mexico, leaving the juveniles behind, and therefore it seems likely that these bats were the only available hosts for the newly emerging streblids.

Coquillett (1900) listed *Trichobius dugesii* Townsend 1891,

collected by Mr. H. F. Wickham at Tucson, Arizona (no host or date). Through the courtesy of Dr. A. Stone of the U.S.N.M. I have seen this single male specimen and it is a specimen of *T. sphaeronotus*.

On August 7, 1959, I accompanied Dr. L. Cockrum and Mr. G. Bradshaw (Dept. of Zoology, University of Arizona) on a return trip to Carbo Cave, Mexico. There we encountered a very large maternal colony of the Brazilian free-tailed bats. Individuals of *T. sphaeronotus*, normally a rare bat ectoparasite, were flying about in tremendous numbers. In a random sample of one tunnel, ten sweeps were taken with a standard aerial net from a stationary position, and 261 (112 males: 149 females) specimens were obtained. At another location in the same tunnel, where there was a cluster of streblids on the cave ceiling measuring three feet long and four inches wide, one sweep netted 193 (92 males: 101 females) streblids. These counts were obtained by freely pouring a mixture of K.A.A.D., which killed the flies upon contact, over the netting immediately upon completion of the sampling. The bats which I did inspect had a range of zero to four streblids apiece. In all, I obtained 771 (347 males: 424 females) specimens in a very short period.

LITERATURE CITED

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